1	H.484
2	<u>First</u> : After Sec, by adding a Sec to read as follows:
3	Sec 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 183, Sec. 51a is amended to read:
4	Sec. 51a. COVID-19-RELATED PAID LEAVE GRANT PROGRAM
5	(a) Establishment and appropriation.
6	(1) There is established in the Department of Financial Regulation the
7	COVID-19-Related Paid Leave Grant Program to administer and award grants
8	to employers to reimburse the cost of providing COVID-19-related paid leave
9	to employees as provided in subsection (e) of this section.
10	(2) The sum of $\$15,180,000.00$ $\$5,000,000.00$ is appropriated from the
11	American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery
12	Funds to the Department of Financial Regulation for fiscal years 2023 and
13	2024 for the provision of grants to reimburse employers for the cost of
14	providing COVID-19-related paid leave. Not more than seven percent of the
15	amount appropriated pursuant to this subdivision may be used for expenses
16	related to Program administration and outreach.
17	* * *
18	(c) Grant program.
19	* * *
20	(3)(A) Employers may submit applications for grants during the period
21	beginning on October 1, 2022 and ending on September 30, 2023 and may

1	submit an application not more than once each calendar quarter during that
2	period. Grant applications shall be submitted for paid leave provided during
3	the preceding calendar quarter and, subject to subdivision (B) of this
4	subdivision (3), for calendar quarters in the program period prior to the
5	preceding calendar quarter.
6	(B) An employer shall be permitted to request grant funds for costs
7	related to COVID-19-related paid leave described in subsection (e) of this
8	section in a calendar quarter prior to the preceding calendar quarter if:
9	(i) the employer has not already received grant funds in relation to
10	the COVID-19-related leave; and
11	(ii) the costs of the COVID-19-related leave are eligible for a
12	grant pursuant to the provisions of this section and any applicable federal
13	requirements.
14	(4) An employer may combine grant funds with funding from other
15	sources but shall not use grant funds from multiple sources for the same
16	instance of paid leave provided to its employees for COVID-19-related
17	reasons. As used in this subdivision, an "instance" means a calendar day in
18	which the employee was absent from work for a COVID-19-related reason.
19	* * *
20	(6) Grants shall be awarded to eligible employers on a first-come, first-
21	served basis, subject to available funding.

21

1	* * *
2	(e) Amount of grants.
3	(1) Employers may, subject to the limitations of subdivision (2) of this
4	subsection (e), apply for grants to either reimburse the cost of COVID-19-
5	related paid leave provided to employees or to provide funds to be used to pay
6	the cost to retroactively provide paid leave to employees who took unpaid
7	leave for COVID-19-related reasons.
8	(A) For reimbursement of COVID-19 related paid leave that was
9	already provided, the employer may, subject to the limitations of
10	subdivision (2) of this subsection (e), apply for a grant in an amount equal to
11	the number of hours of COVID-19-related paid leave provided to each
12	employee multiplied by the greater of either the minimum wage established
13	pursuant to 21 V.S.A. § 384 or the employee's regular hourly wage.
14	(B) For COVID-19-related paid leave that will be provided
15	retroactively to employees who took unpaid leave for COVID-19-related
16	reasons, the employer may, subject to the limitations of subdivision (2) of this
17	subsection (e), apply for a grant in an amount equal to the number of hours of
18	COVID-19 related paid leave to be provided to each employee multiplied by
19	the greater of either the minimum wage established pursuant to 21 V.S.A.
20	§ 384 or the employee's regular hourly wage.

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- 1 Sec. __. EFFECTIVE DATES
- 2 (x) Sec. _ shall take effect on passage.

